CLAIMS

1. A method of operating a frequency hopping spread spectrum comprising a central node and dependent nodes which communicate over a time division duplexed, frequency hopping channel, alternate time-wise frequency/time slots being allocated for central node and dependent node transmission, wherein a first of said dependent nodes is not permitted to transmit in a frequency/time slot which immediately succeeds, time-wise, a frequency/time slot in which the central node transmitted to another of said dependent nodes, comprising the steps of:-

the central node maintaining a black-list of worse-performing frequency bands in the channel, and transmitting a dummy packet in a frequency/time slot immediately preceding, time-wise, a frequency/time slot allocated for possible dependent node transmission at a frequency band which is black-listed.

2. A method as in claim 1, wherein the central node refrains from transmitting on a black-listed frequency/ time slot.

3. A Bluetooth node comprising means for maintaining a black-list of worse performing frequency bands, and means for transmitting a dummy packet in a frequency/time slot immediately preceding, time-wise, a frequency/time slot allocated for possible slave node transmission at a frequency band which is black-listed.

4. A Bluetooth node as in claim 3, comprising means for refraining from transmitting on a given frequency/time slot on the basis of the black-list.